

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAJ-01 OMB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01

/140 W

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R 301710Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2135

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 13320

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IT YO

SUBJECT: ITALO-YUGOSLAV POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

REF: ROME 11367 (NOTAL)

1. FONOFF DIRECTOR YUGOSLAV AFFAIRS PIETROMARCHI TELLS US THAT HE WILL ACCOMPANY POLITICAL DIRECTOR GENERAL DUCCI TO BELGRADE DECEMBER 4-6 FOR POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS. PIETROMARCHI DID NOT INDICATE WHAT LINE DUCCI WOULD PURSUE BUT EXPRESSED EXPECTATION THAT TALKS WOULD BE DEVOTED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO MULTILATERAL SUBJECTS.

2. DURING DISCUSSION OF YUGOSLAV DEVELOPMENTS, PIETROMARCHI EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER APPARENT IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN BELGRADE AND MOSCOW. CITING RECENT TRIP OF TITO TO KIEV, PIETRAMARCHI NOTED THAT ATMOSPHERE GENERATED IN MEETING WITH BREZHNEV SEEMED WARMER THAN AT ANY TIME IN RECENT PAST. FONOFF HAS UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT A MAJOR PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TITO'S DESIRE TO GIVE PERSONAL EXPLANATION FOR HIS REFUSAL TO PERMIT ESTABLISHMENT OF SOVIET AIRPORT ON YUGOSLAV SOIL DURING MID EAST CRISIS. FURTHERMORE, ITALIANS
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HAVE RECEIVED INDICATION THAT BREZHNEV MAY HAVE BEEN INVITED

TO NEXT YUGOSLAV PARTY CONGRESS WHICH, TO ITALIANS, IS ANOTHER
DISTURBING SIGN OF GROWING YUGOSLAV-SOVIET RAPPROCHEMENT.

3. PIETROMARCHI ALSO INDICATED THAT ITALIAN ASSESSMENT OF
YUGOSLAV INTERNAL SCENE IS DISMAL PICTURE OF CONTINUING
PRESSURE AGAINST MODERATES AND GENERAL TIGHTENING UP ON THE
POLITICAL SIDE. HE HOPED THAT THERE WOULD BE OPPORTUNITY
DURING UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS TO TEST THIS ASSESSMENT
AS WELL AS IMPRESSION OF CLOSER YUGOSLAV-SOVIET TIES.
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